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LETTER DATED 2 DECEMBER 1992 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF ANGOLA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

I have the honour to transmit herewith the letter addressed by Mr. Pedro de Castro Van-Dunem "Loy", Minister of External Relations of Angola to Mrs. Margaret Anstee, your Special Representative, and to request that it be circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Afonso VAN-DUNEM "MBINDA"
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

Annex

Letter dated 30 November 1992 from the Minister of External Relations of Angola addressed to the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Angola

The Angolan Government and I personally are deeply concerned about the occurrences of last weekend in the Province of Uige, above all because they took place immediately after the Namibe Declaration, which, in our opinion, constituted a reference point in the search for mutual trust that is essential to the solution of the present Angolan crisis.

I must stress that we consider it advisable to give to Mr. Jonas Savimbi's organization and to him personally one more opportunity to demonstrate, in practical and specific terms, their desire to cooperate not only with the Government, but also with the United Nations, to reinstate the Bicesse Accords and, for this very reason, despite the scepticism with which we always face the desire for dialogue and peace repeatedly uttered by the leaders of UNITA, we sent a government delegation to Namibe for contacts with that organization.

We are all quite used to UNITA's tactics and to its inability to respect the commitments that it makes, but it must be stressed that this time the organization in question has exceeded all expectations by violating, on the following day, the Namibe Declaration, with the attack that its army carried out against a vehicle of the Angolan armed forces (FAA) 45 km from Luanda, in the locality of Panguila without justification.

This attack, moreover, was a matter of a provocation, whereby UNITA intended to justify, in case of reaction by the government forces, an operation aimed at the seizure and occupation of the cities of Uige and Negage, which it had been preparing for quite some time according to complaints previously made by the national authorities.

I must stress that, in one way or another, UNITA would carry out these actions, as they would be part of its offensive military plan whereby it intended at least to impose anti-democratic solutions on the Government or to try again to take power by force.

It is therefore not surprising, that, in its usual fashion, UNITA should have advised you that the origin of these confrontations is an alleged incident between the police and a vehicle that was transporting military personnel of that party.

Even if it had been so, I would like to call your attention to the fact that a minor incident cannot call into question an entire process that involves a whole nation.

It must also be stressed that the magnitude of the occurrences in Uige and Negage demonstrates clearly that it is not a matter of a spontaneous reaction to some alleged incident.

In addition to this, another proof that nothing of what UNITA is doing at this time is casual is the fact that it simultaneously destroyed several major bridges in the provinces of Malange and Kuanza Norte that are more than 400 km from the location where UNITA alleges the incident to have occurred.

In addition, the difficulties of communication that Mr. Jonas Savimbi has been invoking to push aside the war-like actions of his troops are fallacious and dangerous to the extent that they may lead the international community to evaluate the situation incorrectly and not take the positions demanded by the reality of the facts.

Also, in statements made to Vorgan this weekend, Mr. Jonas Savimbi again took up the positions he had assumed on 3 October 1992, which gave rise to the present Angolan crisis, in a clear affront to the commitments he made to you on 24 November 1992, in Huambo.

(Signed) Pedro de Castro VAN-DUNEM "LOY"
Minister of External Relations
of Angola